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The Balance, AND COLUMBIAN REPOSITORY.

"HAIL SACRED POLITY, BY FREEDOM REAR'D!
"HAIL SACRED FREEDOM, WHEN BY LAW RESTRAIN'D!"

BEATTIE.

HUDSON, (NEW-YORK) *Tuesday*, JULY 29, 1806.

Original.

Hither the products of your closet-labors bring,
Enrich our columns, and instruct mankind.

FOR THE BALANCE.

THE CHANGE. *No. I.*

IT being now fully evident that thoſe who have ruled the ſtate for ſeveral years paſt, muſt ſhortly loſe their influence, the circumſtance ought not to paſs without ſome improvement. Experience, though often ſevere, is the beſt teacher. Having a little leiſure, and being not the moſt inattentive obſerver of human affairs, I purpoſe, in the courſe of ſeveral numbers, to point out,

1. Wherein the late party have erred.

2. The conduct which thoſe who ſucceed them ought carefully to purſue.

The firſt of theſe will in a great meaſure anticipate the ſecond; for when errors are ſhown, the inference naturally is, that they ought to be avoided. Something, however, will ſtill remain which may be profitably mentioned.

I begin with ſaying, that the ſlanders which have been publiſhed reſpecting our greateſt and moſt virtuous characters, is a heinous crime; and that, whatever temporary elevation it may produce, will, in the end, work the downfall of thoſe who are guilty. Charges of the moſt ſerious nature have been brought againſt men; none of them ever proved, and now univerſally acknowledged to be falſe. One officer has been charged with embezzling the public money; another with ſetting fire to his office; and theſe called *federaliſts* have, in general, been reviled as *monarchiſts* or *ariſtocrats*. Attempts have been made to ſully the fame even of WASHINGTON and HAMILTON, than whom more enlightened and diſtinguiſhed patriots never exiſted in any age, or in any country. It is true that ſome who abuſed them while living, wept at their tombs—an inconſiſtency which could not eſcape remark, and which clearly proves the ſource of all the oppoſition. When ADAMS, JAY, KING, and others, are numbered with the dead—when they are no longer objects of envy, nor eclipſe certain ambitious men, they alſo will receive their due praiſe.

No perſon is to be condemned for ſeeking an office which he is capable of filling; but only for unjuſtifiable methods to obtain it. He is not likely to diſcharge faithfully an office, nor will he, probably, long retain it, who has wormed himſelf in by miſrepreſenting and injuring his neighbour. In what way did thoſe ſucceed who hold places, at preſent, in the general government and in this ſtate? Let the appeal be made to all acquainted with the public affairs. Let it be made to their own conſciences. They muſt know, and every body now knows, that they obtained their aſcendancy by calumny and deceit. There may be an uſe in the change of men; but they are fooliſh and wicked who would either aſpire to or hold a place acquired by diſhoneſt means.

Calumny is the original error of thoſe who have reigned of late years, and to which moſt of the other miſchiefs are to be imputed. Having began with iniquity, nothing was to be expected than that they would continue and increaſe in the ſame. One lie leads to another; one trick to a ſecond; and roguery is reduced to a ſyſtem. Hence, all but themſelves have been conſtantly held up as inimical to the public good; they have called themſelves excluſively *republicans*; the country is to be defended without money, ſhips, or men, while theſe bleſſed republicans are filling their own pockets; all offices are in their choice, or at their diſpoſal; not a turnpike can paſs this or the other man's houſe, unleſs he engage to be friendly and active in their behalf, at an election; and even the hanging or reſpiting of a man depends on their pleaſure. How long have ſome of the people run after theſe ſtate-jugglers! The deception is now over; and *Punch* with his *puppets* appear juſt as they are.

WARREN.

FOR THE BALANCE.

POLITICAL REFLECTIONS.

(Continued from No. 27.)

I MUST beg pardon of the reader, whilſt I digreſs for a moment, to give him ſome information reſpecting Tom Paine, that man of uſeful labors, eſpecially as he is concerned very nearly in this moſt meritorious work. I am confident it will not be an unacceptable thing, to inform him of this conſequential gentleman, eſpecially if he be lately initiated into the divine ſcience of revolutionizing, the new philoſophy, infideliſm, and democracy, as it is now practiſed in the new order of things.

In thoſe perilous times, when men's hearts began to fail with fear, among the foremoſt to defend the cauſe of a brave people, ſtood Paine, and our matchleſs chief; the latter by his counſels, and the former by his writings, were, to the great and good WASHINGTON, equal to an hoſt. Among the writings of Paine, to inſpire our countrymen with a belief of the juſtneſs of their cauſe, in throwing off the government of a king, there is one which wrought up their minds to a degree of enthuſiaſm beyond any other, and intereſted the good people who believed the bible to a great degree. Mr. Paine proved, by a paſſage taken from the book of Samuel, the great iniquity of the Jews, in rejecting the ſpiritual head, and requeſting a king, who ſhould go before them and fight their

battles againſt the ſurrounding nations. This, like the potent charm of Aaron's rod, worked miracles throughout America; and nothing could prejudice them more with a determination to purſue with alacrity, the war they had undertaken: the adaption of this ſingular paſſage to the deſign in view, was happy; many might have read their bibles ſeveral times, and yet have overlooked this place; without animadverting farther, there appeared to be no ſtraining of any point to adapt this paſſage to them; here was none of the hypocriſy of Cromwell to ſeek the Lord all night, that he might murder a king in the morning; but was a doctrine a prieſt would not be reprehenſible to preach from the pulpit. Job ſays, "Great men are not always wiſe;" and Tom Paine, in one of his papers addreſſed, I think, to one of the Howe's, obſerves, that "he who lives in a glaſs houſe ſhould not throw ſtones." If he had profited by this caution, it might warn him againſt contradicting himſelf when he was in France.

The courſe that morals and religion took in their late revolution, is freſh in every perſon's memory. In that, both bible and prieſts were of no uſe; not like Maurice of Saxony, to ſuſpend a reformation for a time, until his end was anſwered, they on the contrary aboliſhed the whole. To this kind of revolution, Paine was exactly fitted; he wanted one of morals and religion, of politics and government, of which I preſume he expected to be high prieſt, or one of the great officers. It is a maxim that holds true, equally in the body natural as well as politic, "that it is eaſier to throw down than build up." He was inſtrumental in one revolution, and ſupported by the good opinion he always entertained of his abilities, he wiſhed to promote that of the French.

To the actors of the French revolution, Paine's Age of Reaſon was a moſt acceptable book; to ſanction the murder of a king, and the execrable butchery of a queen, nothing could be more agreeable; he made his book philippize in favor of all the *maſſacres, robberies, whoredoms, impurities* and *treacheries*, that the wildeſt jacobins, democrats and infidels could deviſe. Thus then, this man of conſiſtencies, was with the Romans a Roman; when he wrote under Waſhington, he introduced the bible as a book of the higheſt authority, veracity and profoundeſt veneration, entitled to our moſt thankful acknowledgments and grateful remembrance: when with the French, he propagates a doctrine calculated to ſuit their ideas of revolutionizing mankind. To effect this the better, every idea of moral and religious ſentiment is obliterated, and that whoredom might now effectually be promoted, he accuſes the Virgin Mother of bringing forth a child unlawfully begotten. That theſe ideas were very acceptable to them, we may reaſonably judge; for they now had baniſhed all virtue, modeſty, chaſtity and honeſty from their thoughts, their deliberations or their future expectations. Paine, upon the old plan of Spinoza, Voltaire, Gildon, Hume, Gibbon, &c. revives, under a new title, the wretched creed of all incendiaries, jacobins and infidels, by publiſhing the heart-eaſing doctrine of having no Saviour, and conſequently no accountability; he ſet the wretched people adrift to commit all manner of licentiouſneſs. With them whoredom was more agreeable than chaſtity; vice than virtue; robbery than honeſty; and murder, by the activity of the infernal machine, the gullotine, was *mere luſus*—that is, only ſport. Without enquiring whether a man who propagates ſuch doctrines, and ſets the wildeſt paſſions to rave with unrelenting and ungovernable barbarity, is not acceſſary, nay, the inſpirer of theſe flagitious acts, I paſs on.

With St. Paul, we can eaſily agree, that there are veſſels made to honor, and ſome to diſhonor; the difference not being ſo much between golden and wooden, as the uſe to which the veſſel is put; either can hold nectar, or the juice of the hemlock; however, ſome poiſons, naturaliſts ſay, are ſo ſubtile, as to be contained only in the hoof of an *aſs*. Paine muſt have forgotten the piece he wrote, to reconcile the minds of our people to throw off the monarchical government, in taking an inſtance from the bible to juſtify their proceedings; when with the French, he denies the ſame book, to reconcile their minds to the ſame thing; which amounts to this, to the former he declares *that* for truth, which to the latter is a falſehood. If, according to his Age of Reaſon, the bible be a lie, he impoſed an egregious one on us; if true, he has done the ſame with the French.

(To be continued.)

FOR THE BALANCE.

THERE muſt be under every democratical form of government, but eſpecially under one where the licentiouſneſs of the preſs has become the abſolving ſanction of profligacy and crimes in civil magiſtrates, a certain claſs of political pretenders, who, being ſomewhat exalted, indeed, above the ordinary rabble of their ſpecies, account themſelves wiſe and great. For, under every ſuch form of government, there will be thouſands, in whoſe eſtimation to be wiſe and great is but another phraſe for being writers in ſome newſpaper. Hence the crowd of inſipid and corrupt writers, who at preſent diſgrace the literary, and degrade the political character of ſome of the American prints.

Had not one of this crowd, who in his laſt eſſay omnipotently ſtyles himſelf "*The* AUTHOR *of Columbia County*," diſcovered himſelf to be leſs ſenſible than conceited, leſs learned than thraſonical, leſs witty than contumelious, and ſomewhat more of a clown than a courtier; were it poſſible to diſcover aught in his eſſay ſavouring either of genius, learning, poetry, or invention; were there any order or regularity about it; had it a beginning, a middle, and an end, with ſo much of due connexion between them, as might indicate ſome deſign; in a word, were it not intimately allied to former eſſays from the ſame pen: or, had "it fallen to the *ſhare*" of its great "author" "to have received a *polite* education;" did he know, as he profeſſes he does not, any thing about "*latin*;" or, did he *not* know, as evidently he does, but a poor penny worth of his mother tongue: *then* ſhould he have a reply. But, inaſmuch as theſe eſſential conditions do not exiſt, he cannot be thus noticed. The mantle which he has endeavored to throw over his natural ſtupidity, in the bare-boned apology for his ignorance under the pretext of diſadvantages in his education, would not cover the indignity of another condeſcention, to take any formal notice of his writings. Indeed, to have noticed them at all, is, perhaps, to have ridiculed the diſcernment and inſulted the judgment of thoſe who have read them. Surely they could need no expoſition, no commentary. They are too frivolous to admit of ſober criticiſm, and too abſurd to be traveſtied. If retaliation is any way practicable, it muſt be by attacking the *author*—not his *works*. But even this alſo would be equally inglorious, and perhaps more ungrateful. *Inglorious*, for there could be no "difficulties to encounter" in puſhing the als down the precipice: *ungrateful*, becauſe humanity would not allow the indulgence of a laugh at his fall. Therefore the beaſt with ſoft horns may begin to bray—VICTORY—VICTORY.

LUCIUS.

P. S. The only inducement I have felt to reſume, even for a moment and in this indirect way, a ſubject, which, for its inſignificance and futility, ought never to have been thought of but to be deſpiſed, did not involve the gratification of any wiſh to anſwer the continued ſcurrilities of a writer, whoſe pen, I am ſorry to ſay, is never employed, but to reveal the crude conceptions of a vulgar, paltry and polluted mind. It was founded wholly on a conviction of having heretofore committed an injurious miſtake, through a miſapprehenſion as to the real author of an *addreſs*, which has been regarded as the production of ſomebody in New-Lebanon. Nor can I take any juſt blame to myſelf on account of that miſtake. The writer of the addreſs is alone reſponſible for injuries incurred by his deception. Willing, it ſeems, on that, as on a former occaſion, *(he will recollect what occaſion)* that ſome honeſt fellow-laborer ſhould reap the honor, or abide the infamy, of patroniſing a ſpurious offspring, he ſtepped out of his own proper precinct, and in a moment's grace, by writing "Lebanon," committed his diſcarded bantling to the protection of a ſtranger. A moſt unnatural parent, ſurely, thus to abandon a moſt the firſt fruits of his intellect, to the mercy of any body to whom conjecture, always officious in ſuch caſes, might happen to impute the brat. So thoſe who may think

themſelves to have ſuffered from ſuch an imputation, while regretting the cauſe of their unhappy dilemma, I have only to ſay, if they have been cruelly treated, they have been found in bad company.

FOR THE BALANCE.

A STRANGE APPARITION.

IT is to be lamented, that reports are not purſued in time, and that no eſs are not taken by ſome intelligent perſon, of certain events. Rumors go abroad, and are altered and magnified, ſo that the truth becomes uncertain, and poſterity are deprived of the benefit which they might otherwiſe receive. For want of this neceſſary attention, and due pains to obtain exact information, the following ſtory cannot be fully depended on:

A certain democrat who had been buſy for three days, at a late election, in diſtributing hand-bills, bawling for *Clinton* and liberty, and ſwearing that the federaliſts were all *monarchiſts* or *ariſtocrats*, returned home, alone and late in the evening, after the poll was cloſed. As he paſſed through a ſolitary place, ſhaded by a thick wood, he heard the rattling of a chain behind him; on looking back, he ſaw ſomething diſmal and ferocious approaching him. The ſize ſeemed at firſt not much above that of a common man; but ſuddenly increaſed to the height and thickneſs of a large hay-ſtack. He attempted to run, and his joints failed him. He fell flat on the ground, and muttered ſome words which he cannot now recollect. After laying ſome time, he recovered his ſenſes; and the viſion having diſappeared, he was able to totter home, the ſweat pouring from his body, his eyes waring, and his hair ſtanding on end, to the conſternation of the family who had ſat up waiting for him, and expecting to hear whether the election had gone in favor of republicaniſm.

Some of the neighbors to whom the ſtory has been told, are of opinion, that there was nothing but the working of an imagination overheated with the ideas of the public good—an exemption from taxes—and the expectation of an office. The man himſelf inſiſts upon it, that he ſaw OLD NICK, who was miſtaken as to the time in which it had been agreed for him to come. Though the relater is not poſitive that he diſcerned either horns, or wings, or tail, or even the cloven foot, yet he has a faint remembrance of fire coming out of his mouth, and of its vaniſhing in a whirlwind. He alſo ſays, that ſatan might have been angry with him for dropping ſome expreſſions favorable to the federaliſts and thoſe who voted for the Merchants' Bank; and he has determined to be more cautious, and to double his diligence, in the true cauſe, hereafter.

The account is evidently ſo ſhort, imperfect, and carries ſo much improbability in the very face of it, that it is hard to pronounce any ſentence. What was ſeen could not have been a ghoſt; becauſe this always appears in white. It could not have been his ſatanic majeſty; becauſe it is not his intereſt to frighten democrats. It may have been an old ſtump or hemlock buſh, which, conſcience burdened with lies, conjured up in the terrific form, and put the poor democrat into all the horror. The notion of its being a witch ought to be altogether rejected; for ſhe always rides on a broom-ſtick, or ſkips like a cat about the fences. It is hoped that ſome account more full and ſatisfactory will ſoon be publiſhed. AN INTERPRETER.

Communications.

SEVERAL reaſons may be given for the low ſpirits of the *Clintonian* faction, on the late anniverſary. 1. There were not ſo many removals from office as was wiſhed, expectants were grievouſly diſappointed. Thoſe who have been waiting for years, thought that their turn would now ſurely come. 2. No motion was made in the Legiſlature to take away the charter of the Merchants' Bank. After the denunciation of it in the Clintonian paper, and no attempt following this to correct what was ſaid to be a monſtrouſly wicked thing, tended to diſpirit thoſe who had formerly liſtened to the whinings of demagogues. 3. The caſes of Purdy, Arnold, and Thorn, had no ſmall effect. 4. The refuſal of the mayor of the city of New-York, at leaſt it was ſo underſtood from the conduct of his partiſans, to receive a handſome ſalary, and allow ſome of his preſent enormous income to go to the ſupport of the poor, ſtrikingly ſhowed that he was not ſo diſintereſted as had been pretended. A SPECTATOR.

IT muſt be allowed that the Militia of this ſtate were never in ſuch order, and ſo inſpired with the notion of diſcipline as ſince the adminiſtration of governor Lewis. He has been uncommonly attentive both by his direction and preſence to render the militia, indeed, the ſureſt defence of their country. C.

THE ſuppoſition is certainly falſe, that the *poplar worm* was generated in the time of Mr. Adams's adminiſtration. If it was, it was not diſcovered until the ſecond reign of Mr. Jefferſon. The latter is more likely to be the epoch of its introduction; and it may have been brought from *Louiſiana*, where are *ſalt mountains*, *horned frogs* and *prairie dogs*, &c. Repeated experiments have ſhown that the worm is harmleſs; and that even cats, democrats, and puppies, may eat it without injury.* The deciſion, however, of the great philoſopher himſelf is anxiouſly wiſhed for, and will put an end to all doubt on the ſubject. A NATURALIST.

[* My correſpondent has good authority for this aſſertion. A puppy in Philadelphia ate one of the worms—a cat in this place did the ſame—and ſerjeant Holt, of Herkimer, ſays, that a Frenchman in his neighborhood, has eaten ſeveral.

Edit. Bal.]

IF gen. Armſtrong acts abroad, unworthy of his nation, the fault ought to be imputed to Mr. Jefferſon. Complaint was made before Mr. Armſtrong received his laſt appointment; and it is, therefore, to be preſumed that the preſident had the fulleſt confidence in his talents and integrity. No other poſſeſſed equal means of information. There is ſomething mean in the *Clintonians* accuſing Mr. Armſtrong, and thus indirectly attacking Mr. Jefferſon, merely becauſe the former is connected with the *Livingſton* family. A. B.

THE ſentiments and characters of men may be often diſcovered by ſmall circumſtances. Let it be remarked, that the *Clintonian* faction or *Cheethamites*, never aſſume in any of their publications, the term FEDERAL. They call themſelves merely *republicans*, which is liable to various interpretations. As they violently oppoſed the preſent conſtitution of the United States, ſo they ſeem to retain their old enmity. S.

Editor's Closet.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER.

"YOU will ſee in a late Albany Gazette, under the head of "*Poplar-worm*," a whole ſtring of lies, which it is a wonder that any printer ſhould publiſh for truths. No ſow, calf or horſe is known here, on the ſtricteſt inquiry, to have been ſlain by the worm. Nor is there a ſhadow of truth, that a young democrat engaged and overcome in ſingle combat, one of above three feet long. The democrats are more careful of their lives, and buſy in attending to their offices for the "public good." It is not impoſſible that one of them might have diſcharged a piſtol at the ugly animal, as the law againſt *duelling* does not extend to a caſe of this nature.

"I have not been able to diſcover in what place "in the neighborhood of Albany," the toaſts which you mention, were drank by a "a ſelect company of *genuine* republicans." They did not appear in the *Albany Regiſter*; though I think them more worthy of inſertion than any which I have ſeen in that paper for a long time. They are truly original; and while they diſcover the uſual malice of the faction, ſhow a wit of which they have not been thought capable.

"Doctor *Crouſe* and Mr. *Holt* muſt "manage their own affairs in their own way." I have little faith in the doctor's cure for the hydrophobia; and am ſure that he can never cure Mr. Holt. I think him judicious, however, in applying cauſtics, bliſters, and frequent veneſections. The ſubſtitution too of the jaw-bone of an *aſs* for that of a *dog*, may have a good effect. At any rate, let it have a fair trial."

Agricultural.

FOR THE BALANCE.

New-Britain, 7 *mo.* 18, 1806.

Friend Harry,

SOME good may poſſibly reſult to the public at a future day from the prevailing practice of ſtarting and publiſhing new theories and new projects: it may teach us to examine, compare and ſelect —for a little part of almoſt every "infallible" may be founded in nature, and worth attention.

To every whole, there muſt be many parts—and the great atmoſphere which ſurrounds our globe, is diverſified with almoſt as many different atmoſpheres, as there are bodies of different qualities on its ſurface: theſe are ſome of the localities of nature, and

If more understood,
Might be productive of extensive good.

Reaſoning on ſubjects of this nature, has frequently induced me to try theory by practice: and the ſubject of this paper is to inform thee of the reſult of one of my little experiments.

The different temperatures of the air, ſurrounding ſubſtances equally expoſed to the influence of heat in ſummer, had ſuggeſted a thought that this circumſtance might be improved to advantage; eſpecially in defending our tender garden plants from the influence of extreme heat and drought.

The common, coarſe, grey flint ſtone, is known by its coolneſs till late in the morning, to be very ſlow in yielding to the influence of heat; and by its temperature through the day, joined with its moiſture in exceſſive dry and warm ſeaſons, may be ſeen its properties of counteraction to heat. When I planted my cucumbers, and other vine ſeeds laſt ſpring, I covered the hills with ſmall flint ſtones, until time for them to ſprout, when I removed them till the plants were out of the ground, and then carefully replaced the ſtones. As the plants grew, I moved the ſtones and hoed the plants twice; they continued to flouriſh, bloſſom and grow till ſince the preſent drought. I was gone twelve days to New-York: on my return they ſhowed ſome ſmall ſymptoms of decay; and as the drought continued very ſevere, (ſo that ſome few vines began to wilt) I removed the dirt around thoſe to the depth of two or three inches, and then on the moiſt earth laid larger ſtones of the ſame kind; filling the crevices between with freſh and moiſt dirt.

I had the ſatisfaction immediately to ſee my plants revive, even within twenty hours, and they have not ſhown any ſymptoms of want of ſufficient moiſture ſince: they grow, bloſſom, and bear exceedingly.

The bugs, worms and drought, have almoſt wholly deſtroyed the tendereſt of our garden plants, excepting where the ſtones have been placed for their protection.

If people would conſider that melons, cucumbers and ſquaſhes grow moſtly in the night, becauſe the intenſe heat of the day, in our climate, is often-times too great for their conſtitutions; then they would ſee the neceſſity of counteracting the ſolar influences, and of changing in ſome degree the temperature of the air around ſuch plants, from the ſcorching heat of day into the cooler and moiſter temperament of night air, and would learn the means.

I remain thy friend,

* * *

P. S. I meant to inform thee alſo, that ſome few plants which I have tended otherwiſe equally well, ſave ſtoning, yielded long ſince to drought and vermin.

Monitorial.

To aid the cause of virtue and religion.

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EXTRACT.

A VERY ſingular ſermon was lately preached before the magiſtrates, &c. of Grantham, in England, in which the preacher, Mr. Carr, inculcates the dignity of magiſtrates and their obligation to act uprightly. In this extraordinary production, publiſhed by deſire of the magiſtrates, is introduced the following curious calculation:

"It is generally ſuppoſed that this earth is inhabited by one thouſand millions of men, or thereabouts, and that thirty-three years make a generation, and therefore that in thirty-three years there die one thouſand millions. Thus the number of thoſe who die on earth, amount to

Each year, thirty millions.
Each day, eighty-two thouſand.
Each hour, three thouſand, four hundred.
Each minute, ſixty.
Each ſecond, one.

"This calculation muſt neceſſarily ſtrike us: if the mortality be ſo great every year and every hour, is it not probable that he who reflects on it, may himſelf be one of thoſe ſoon to ſwell the liſt of the dead? It is at leaſt certain, that it ought to lead us to think ſeriouſly and often on this ſubject. Now at this very moment, one of our fellow-creatures is going out of the world, and before another hour be paſt, more than three thouſand ſouls will have entered into an eternal ſtate."

Literary Notice.

Albany, July 18.

BACKUS & WHITING, will ſhortly put to preſs, to be ornamented with a beautiful Frontiſpiece, that elegant and uſeful work, Fenelon's *Treatiſe on the Education of Daughters*, tranſlated from the French, and adapted to Engliſh readers, with an original chapter on *Religious Studies*, by the rev. T. F. Dibdin, B. A. F. A. S. &c. &c.

On a ſubject ſo highly intereſting as that of the *Education of Daughters*, the pen of the great and good Fenelon has not been employed in vain; and the publiſhers flatter themſelves that they will perform an uſeful and acceptable ſervice, by giving to the American public a neat edition of this valuable work, at about *one fourth* the price of the London copy, which ſells at *three and a half dollars*.

"Delightful task! to rear the tender thought,
"To teach the young idea how to shoot——!"

Miſcellany.

"HEAR BOTH SIDES."

FROM THE BALTIMORE GAZETTE.

DEAR SIR,

YOUR courteſy will excuſe the preſent treſpaſs on your attention. I addreſs them to communicate an important fact. It has been, in the form of experiment, laid before the public, that the numerous claſs of reptiles which inhabit the Lombardy Poplar, is fatal to animal life, if provoked to attack and ſucceſsful in the infliction of a wound. To the authenticity of the communicated I objected; becauſe it was anonymouſly handed to the world. Nevertheleſs, as it had obtained conſiderable credit in reſpectable private circles, I was induced, in company with ſeveral other gentlemen, to inſtitute experiments whereby we might aſcertain the fact.

The firſt ſubject of experiment was a pigeon; but either defended by its plumage or ſafe becauſe the reptile procured to inflict the wound, had in its efforts to defend itſelf againſt the rough uſage of the experimentaliſts, exhauſted its ſtore of poiſon, and required ſome time to be again furniſhed with its weapon of miſchief, the pigeon eſcaped unhurt and now lives in good health.

The ſecond experiment had for its ſubject a young guinea pig. Two of the reptiles were applied to this little quadruped, which, during the experiment, frequently uttered plaintive cries, as if wounded. The worms were applied to the mouth, noſe and ears. They were irritated by unfriendly treatment to attack the pig.

About five minutes ſubſequent to the time of making the experiments, the pig appeared to be unhurt, and poſſeſſed its uſual powers of life.

Called away by my profeſſional duties, I left the pig with one of the gentlemen, who in fact was one of the chief conductors of the experiment. When I returned to the pig, it was dead, and the gentleman aſſured me that it died preciſely forty-nine minutes after I left it.

At the moment of my return, there were ten or fifteen gentlemen in my ſurgery, engaged in experiments on a kitten, with two worms. I was much pleaſed at the choice as the cat is vivacious and poſſeſſes a ſtrong hold on life. In a few minutes after the worms were removed, the kitten gave evident and unequivocal ſigns of pain and diſtreſs. Great jactitation of body and limbs were ſucceeded by long and ſuſpirious breathing; which, in turn, were followed by quick and convulſive acts of reſpiration. Theſe ſymptoms of expiring life continued for about forty or fifty minutes, when they in ſome degree relaxed. The kitten for ſeveral hours remained low in its powers, and was ſcarcely able to maintain its ground in a conteſt ſo unequal. In the evening it was reſtored to its mother leſt it might ſuffer thro' inanition. It took nouriſhment and for a ſhort ſpace its claims to life brightened up, but this morning it is dead, and no adventitious agency hoſtile to its life, can be traced out.

The above experiments were performed in the preſence of a conſiderable number of gentlemen. The agonies of the kitten were obſerved by at leaſt forty or fifty perſons. The experiments were conducted fairly, and every care was uſed that we ſhould not be impoſed on. The animals choſen for the experiments were poſſeſſed of their uſual vigor and vivacity.

If the death of theſe two animals be not attributed to the venom of the reptile, to what hidden cauſe, eluding the vigilance of ſo many perſons, each anxious to aſcertain the fact, ſhall they be referred? To mere incident? Surely not.

The ſubject opens to us a field of experiment. It is intereſting and highly important to ſociety, and ſhould not remain as only ſuited to the curious inveſtigations of the philoſophic naturaliſt. Its claims riſe above the mere inquiſitive reſearches of ſpeculative philoſophy. That poiſon which is deſtructive to the inferior animals, particularly the feline ſpecies, cannot be conſidered as ſafe to man.

The reptile of which I treat, is pretty evidently of the ſpecies of caterpillar, and in all probability, of that genus termed, by ſome of the enlightened French naturaliſts, the falſe or ſpurious caterpillar, which does not after its chryſalis ſtate paſs into a butterfly. This genus ſo nearly reſembles the real caterpillar, in figure and general appearance, as to be frequently, while in its reptile ſtate, taken for the genuine caterpillar. Some tribes of the caterpillar, ſo far from being innoxious, as they are generally conceived to be, are really poiſonous. So far indeed as to occaſion great pain, and excite high inflamation upon having the down on their bodies ſlightly touched. And many other tribes if we are to believe the hiſtories given to us by thoſe who have paid attention to their economy, have near their ſtomachs ſmall bladders or veſſicles, filled with an acid to the ſmell quick and penetrating, and very active properties. Is this their mean of annoyance or defence? Is it their magazine for war?

Accept the homage of my eſteem, moſt reſpectfully your's.

J. B. DAVIDGE.

THORGOOD SMITH, Eſq. Mayor of the city of Baltimore.

The ſame newſpaper of a ſubſequent date contains the following on the other ſide:

COMMUNICATION.

THE public mind has been for ſome time paſt, conſiderably agitated concerning the propriety of deſtroying one of the chief ornaments of our city—namely the Lombardy Poplars.

Before we proceed to the deſtruction of this beautiful tree, it ought to be clearly aſcertained that the inſect it produces is really in its nature fatal to animal life. From a number of experiments made here and elſewhere, it ſeems to be unequivocally proved, that the bite, or ſting of the inſect, is not venomous. It is not neceſſary to recapitulate in this place, the experiments made in other places; for them, I refer the reader to Pariſh's letter. A number of experiments were alſo made in this city, all of which, except *two*, tend to corroborate the opinion that their bite or ſting, is not venomous.

The two experiments alluded to above were inſtituted by Dr. Davidge of this city. Notwithſtanding the high opinion I entertain of the character of Dr. Davidge, as a phyſician and a gentleman, I am inclined to believe, that neither the experiments themſelves, nor the concluſions drawn from them, ought to be ſufficient to effect the deſtruction of the Poplars.

The Guinea pig uſed in the experiment, from the beſt information I could obtain, was about three weeks old—the kitten was at moſt two. It is, I believe a well eſtabliſhed phyſiological fact, that the younger animals poſſeſs a greater degree of irritability. The Guinea pig particularly, even in its adult ſtate, is one of the moſt irritable of all animals. The cat though when full grown, very tenacious of life, is, when ſo young extremely irritable.

There is in the adult man, at particular times, ſuch a degree of irritability that he may be thrown in the moſt fatal convulſions by the mere prick of a needle; why then is that attributed to a deadly poiſon, which is merely the effect of nervous irritation?

This ſubject ſhould engage the attention of all who reſpect the beauty of our city and the health of its inhabitants. Should it be aſcertained that this inſect is really poiſonous, every tree that ſupports it ſhould be inſtantly deſtroyed. But I truſt, that upon an impartial examination it will be found that this inſect, ſo terrible in imagination, is as harmleſs as any other inſect.

A FRIEND TO THE POPLARS.

FROM THE N. Y. DAILY ADVERTISER.

To the Editor.

The following is a letter received from a valuable friend, with my anſwer thereto, which you will be good enough to give a place in your paper.

W. S. SMITH.

PHILADELPHIA, *June* 28, 1806.

SIR,

I HAVE just received from Carracas a liſt of the names of the Americans taken by the Spaniards on board of Miranda's ſchooners. The name of Smith is twice found in it. I ſuſpect the laſt to be the ſon of colonel Smith, and grandſon to Mr. Adams. Although I had ſome political differences with him when he was preſident, this circumſtance has not deprived me of that particular regard and reſpect toward ſuch a diſtinguiſhed character, and particular conſideration for his family. Not the leaſt doubt exiſts but the greateſt part of the priſoners will be put to death as pirates, and I would be very happy to be able, by a timely and immediate interference, to ſave the life of the unfortunate youth, grandſon to the venerable Mr. Adams and his worthy ſpouſe. But, to render my interceſſion effectual, I would require, as the only condition, that col. Smith would diſcloſe to me, through you, on his word of honor, all the knowledge he has of Miranda's plans, of his intended points of attack, of the perſons with whom he had connexions in Carracas, and of the name of any Spaniard in this country, who ſhared in his ſcheme and expedition; in fact, all the material information he may be poſſeſſed of, the knowledge of which may be uſeful to my government, and for the preſervation and the tranquillity of the proviuces Miranda had in view to revolutionize.

As I remember your attachment for Mr. Adams, I take the liberty to make this ſuggeſtion to you, who no doubt will employ all the means to relieve from affliction a worthy and diſconſolate family. At all events, I expect from you a prompt and deciſive anſwer on this head. I remain, ſir, with particular regard and conſideration,

Your obedient ſervant,

(Signed) MARQUIS DE CASA YRUJO.

To — —.

NEW-YORK, *June* 30, 1806.

DEAR SIR,

ACCEPT of my warmeſt acknowledgment for your very intereſting communication of this date, preſented by your ſon, accompanied with the letter addreſſed to you from the Marquis De Caſa Yrujo, which, after maturely conſidering I return agreeable to your requeſt.

I am ſure I ſhall do juſtice to the feelings of Mr. and Mrs. Adams, if in their names I thank the Marquis for his very polite attention, in a caſe, no doubt, near, intereſting and affecting. I am ſure, when I do him the juſtice to communicate his tender ſolicitudes for the protection of *their* grand ſon, it will not fail of exciting thoſe ſenſibilities and acknowledgments, which from *them* the Marquis is highly entitled to.

For myſelf, not having the honor of his acquaintance, I had no right to expect any other attention to feelings or dignity of character, than what would naturally ſpring from his own mind when making ſo intereſting a communication.

He informs you, he has juſt received from Carracas, a liſt of the names of Americans taken by the Spaniards on board of Miranda's ſchooners, that the name of Smith is twice found in it, he ſuſpects the laſt to be my ſon, and grandſon to Mr. Adams, and ſays, that he ſhould be very happy by a timely and immediate interference to ſave the life of the unfortunate youth, grand ſon to the venerable Mr. Adams and his worthy ſpouſe; he having no

doubt but the greatest part of the Americans will be put to death. *But*, to render this intercession effectual, he requires as the only condition, that I disclose to him, through you, on my word of honor, all the knowledge I have of Miranda's plans, of his intended points of attack, of the persons with whom he has connections in Carracas, and the name of the Spaniards in this country who shared in his schemes and expedition. In fact all the material information I may be possessed of, the knowledge of which may be useful to the Spanish government, for the preservation and tranquillity of the provinces Miranda has in view to revolutionize.

When the Marquis De Casa Yrujo takes a dispassionate view of the circumstances connected with general Miranda's visit to Washington, his subsequent conduct here, and clearly ascertains that the persons accompanying him in the Leander, were not informed of his projects and plans, he will permit his benevolence to expand and shelter all those taken in the schooners, from harsh treatment and unmerited punishment, he will induce the government of his country to view the question in other lights than those which may tend to expose it to more severe animadversions than have hitherto been made, or to the rousing of that spirit of indignation and resentment, which if once permitted to burst forth, cannot fail of being attended with strong marks of just revenge.

With respect to my son, he was not made acquainted with the plans of general Miranda, he went with him as a young companion, to share his fortunes and his fate, he was accompanied by some of his friends capable of deeds of hardihood and valor—worthy their leader, worthy his cause.

Whatever may be the situation and fate of the persons taken on board the schooners, I can never tacitly sanction the lash of tyranny on his associates, and snatch my son from a participation in their fate, whatever it may be. Nothing but the Marquis's want of an acquaintance with me, can plead in excuse for the indelicacy of his propositions. Do me the favor my friend to assure him, that were I in my son's situation, I would not comply with his proposals to save myself, and I would not cast so great an indignity upon my son, my family and myself, as to shelter him under the shield of infamy and disgrace. I have no doubt the Marquis will give such advice to the governor of Carracas, and make such a statement to his king, (by whom I may have the honor to be personally recollected) as will induce them not to tarnish the dignified character of the Spanish nation by any acts of passion and barbarity connected with the present case.

I am, dear sir,
With great respect,
Your obed't friend and
Humble servant, W. S. SMITH.

FROM THE NEW YORK SPECTATOR,
Of July 15.

TRIAL OF SMITH AND OGDEN.

THE *Circuit Court* of the United States commenced its adjourned session this morning, at the city hall. We are happy to find that the indisposition of Judge Patterson is so far removed, that he is able to preside at this session. After the court was opened, and the customary oath administered to the Grand Jury, an impressive charge was delivered by the presiding judge. The petit jury and the witnesses in the case of the United States against Col. William Smith, and Samuel G. Ogden, were then called; after which a motion was made by the council for the defendants, that a compulsory process be issued to secure the attendance of Mr. Maddison, Mr Dearborne, Mr. Smith and other absent witnesses. In the course of the altercation, to which this motion gave rise, judge Patterson read a letter, (signed by the gentlemen aboyementioned) stating, that the President of the United States had communicated to them his decided opinion that the present situation of public affairs would not admit of their absence from the seat of government. The court decided that, in order to determine the propriety of granting a compulsory process, it was necessary to hear the nature and extent of the testimony expected—and that, although the judges were ready to hear the motion discussed, yet they could not decide upon it, until they had decided a prior motion, offered by the District Attorney, the discussion of which was postponed until to-morrow. The council then consented that the discussion of this motion be deferred, and the court adjourned.

United States, vs. *William S. Smith.*

SECOND DAY.

The court met at 10 o'clock, pursuant to adjournment. Present judges Patterson and Talmadge.

Mr. Colden, counsel for the defendant, offered the affidavit of W. S. Smith, to prove that the witnesses against whom an attachment for a contempt had been moved on Monday were material witnesses. He proceeded at length to prove his right to the atachment.

Mr. Hoffman followed on the same side, and strengthened the arguments and authorities urged by his colleague.

Mr. Sanford, District Attorney, replied and argued, that the process by attachment was neither conformable to the practice of the courts of the United States, nor allowable in this case, as the witnesses were not guilty of a contempt, by their non-appearance.

Mr. Pierpont Edwards supported Mr. Sandford, on all the grounds he had taken, by several law authorities.

It was apparent that judge Patterson was in his weak state greatly exhausted, and the court at half past two o'clock, adjourned until 10 o'clock this morning.—*Evening Post, July* 16.

THIRD DAY.

The court met at 10 o'clock pursuant to adjournment

Present judges Patterson and Talmadge.

The jury and witnesses for the prosecution were called over, and dismissed until 10 o'clock this morning.

After some desultory observations by the counsel who spoke yesterday, Mr. Edwards was heard in continuation of his argument.

Mr Emett replied in a speech of great length. We are sorry that the rules of the court do not permit us to give a detail of a speech so argumentative, eloquent and impressive.

He was followed on the same side, by Mr. Harrison, who spoke at considerable length.

At half past two the court adjourned to 10 o'clock this morning, when it is expected they will determine on the further proceeding in the trial, or the issuing an attachment against the witnesses who have been subpoened and do not attend.—*Ib. July* 17.

FOURTH DAY.

The court met at 10 o'clock, pursuant to adjournment.

Present judges Patterson and Talmadge.

Judge Patterson delivered the opinion of the court on the questions raised by the counsel for the defendant.

On the first the court agreed that the trial must come on at this sitting.

On the second they disagreed. One being of opinion a rule might be granted to shew cause why an attachment should not issue; the other, that neither an attachment nor rule to shew cause could be granted.

Judge Patterson being much indisposed, retired after delivering the opinion of the court.

An affidavit on the part of W. S. Smith was offered, stating the absence of the captain and supercargo of the Leander, who are material witnesses in this case, and who will be here some time in September,

Upon this affidavit a motion was made to postpone the trial till the next regular term of the court.

This was refused by judge Talmadge. And the trial was ordered on.—*Ib. July* 18.

[We have not room to add the details of this trial this week. We can only say, that judge Talmadge alone was prefent—that all teftimony offered by the defendant, was rejected, particularly that which went to fhew the knowledge and approbation of the government, as to the expedition—that the judge in his charge, was pointedly for conviction—that, nevertheleſs, the jury brought in a verdict of NOT GUILTY. Edit. Bal.]

Hudson, *July* 29.

Be it our weekly task,
To note the passing tidings of the times.

.....

Nearly *Fifty Thousand barrels of Flour*, were inspected in the city of Baltimore, during the three months preceding the 30th of June last.

Extract of a letter from Castine, dated June 25th, to a gentleman in Boston.

"Among the indictments at the supreme court, (which set here last week) was one against George Tyler, esq. late post-master of this place, for forging his brother's name to the bond given to Gideon Granger, esq as post-master general. In this indictment he plead guilty, and the court have sentenced him to one year's imprisonment in the common gaol of the county. This shows the repute the man was in at the time he was appointed by Gideon, "to *promote* the *public interest*." It appears that his character was then so bad that he could not procure a bondsman for five hundred dollars—not even his own brother, but was obliged to have recourse to forgery, to enable him to hold the office.

Query Did not a great man know something of his character when he recommended him, "*more or less*." If he did not, it is strange, passing strange."

The U. S. brig Argus, captain Hull, arrived at Washington on the 13th inst. in 39 days from Gibraltar. She brings no news of importance.

On Tuesday the president of the United States, attended by the heads of departments, visited the Argus, when she was dressed on the occasion A salute was fired on their going on board, and another on their departure. The state of this vessel indicated the utmost order and cleanliness, which is further evinced by her not having a sick man on board, although direct ly from the Mediterranean.

We understand that appearances in the Mediterranean are perfectly pacific toward the U S. who are invariably treated with respect on all public occasions. As an evidence of this, it is said that commodore Rodgers was admitted by the Dey of Algiers in his presence with a sword by his side, a mark of respect hitherto unpaid to the representative of any foreign power. [*Nat Intel.*]

The ship Cyrus, capt Paul West, arrived on the Patagonian coast of Chili, gives information that the British armed whaling ship Minerva, capt. Cottle of London, had mutinied and shot their captain. They then commanded the mates and apprentices to be put in two boats and committed to the seas, and were taken up two days afterwards. Capt. Cottle has left a family in Nantucket.

LONDON, *June* 11.

RIOT NEAR THE LONDON DOCKS.

On Sunday afternoon a desperate affray took place between a number of Irish labourers and some American seamen (belonging to ships in the London Docks) in the Broadway adjoining the Docks.

The quarrel originated between an American and an Irishman, respecting a woman of the town. A battle ensued, and the Irishman having got the worst of it, went away, and returned in the course of an hour (about five o clock) with a strong reinforcement of his countrymen, armed with broomsticks, bludgeons, pokers, and various other sorts of weapons, which they brandished in the air, and with violent imprecations, dared the Yankees, as they termed them, to the fight. The Americans who were numerous, assembled in a body for their own protection, but did not attempt to commit or provoke any breach of the peace Their forbearance, however, only tended to render the Irishmen more furious, and they shewed every disposition to commence an immediate attack. Some of the Americans, induced by the threatening aspect of affairs, procured from on board a few weapons, but not sufficient to arm the whole. This was taken by the sons of St. Patrick for a challenge to a trial of skill with the shillela, and they instantly made a ferocious attack upon the Americans, who defended themselves stoutly, but were defeated in the end, with broken heads, legs, &c. after a most severe and

bloody contest. Upwards of 20 Americans were wounded more or less; six of them so dangerously, that they were obliged to be carried off the ground. A young man had his scull fractured, and lies without hope of recovery at the White Hart, Neptune street; one had had both his legs broken, and was taken in a hopeless state to the London Hospital; another unfortunate man had one leg broken, and is by no means free from danger. An American capt. we understand, is among those most hurt in the fray. The success of the Irish made them quite outrageous: after the result of the battle was known reinforcements were constantly arriving, who enlisted under the banners of Mortoch Sullivan, the reputed leader.

This serious commotion excited general alarm in the neighborhood and notice of the proceedings were transmitted to the police office in that district, when Sir D. Williams, Mr. Davies, of Lambert street office, and other magistsates, assembled together with a large posse of constables, headboroughs and police officers, and repaired to the spot where the rioters were still together in great numbers About forty of the most active were apprehended, and lodged in the several watch houses in the vicinity of Tower Hill. Guards from the volunteer corps in the district, were placed over them all night.

Yesterday morning the rioters were escorted to Lambert street office, Goodman's fields, where they underwent an examination. About 15 of the wounded Americans (all who were able) attended to give evidence against the Irishmen. They exhibited a deplorable sight. On investigation, it appeared that the Irishmen were the aggressors: 23 out of the 40, brought up for examination, were clearly identified to have taken an active part in the affray; 15 of these were fully committed for trial, and eight who had been less violent than the rest were sent on board the tender. A woman who was identified among the crowd on the outside of the office, as the person who gave to an Irishman, at the time of the conflict, a clasp knife for a weapon, was taken into custody, examined and fully committed.

Before the American seamen were suffered to depart the court, one of the Magistrates called their attention to a few words he had to say. He reminded them of a riot which took place sometime ago, in the neighborhood of Wapping, in which some American seamen were the principal actors. On that occasion, the Americans were found culpable and punished accordingly. He did not mean to say, that any of those present were concerned, but he wished to impress upon their minds that the laws of this country were equally administered to persons of all nations. The Americans were in this instance the injured parties, and justice should be done them. He was happy to say, that from all that appeared, the Americans had conducted themselves in this unpleasant affair, with prudence and discretion; and any violence that had been manifested by them was only in their own defence. He concluded by exhorting them on all future occasions to act with prudence and due forbearance, and they would be sure to meet with the same respect and protection from the laws as British subjects.

The Knell.

At New-York, on the 19th inst. in the 41st year of his age, the rev. PIERRE ANTONIE ALBERT, Rector of the French Protestant Episcopal Church Du St. Esprit.

—— On the 21st inst. after a short illness, ROBERT I. THURSTON, of that city, merchant.

Mungo Park. We are sorry to communicate to our readers, the death of this enterprising and indefatigable traveller, whose researches in Africa have been read with so much avidity, and have afforded so much instruction. He had been amply supplied by the British government with every thing necessary to render his second tour through the interior of that country, of the highest benefit to mankind — He arrived at Goree in a British ship of war in the month of March, 1805; from which he ascended the river Gambia, with about forty attendants, provided with portable canoes, and every thing necessary to render their travels easy and speedy—they had penetrated about 1500 miles into the interior, to a place called Sage, which Mr. Park has described in his former book of travels. The number of his attendants had been reduced by sickness and death to three, exclusive of himself: the king of this place, after carrying him into every part of the city, which is walled in and considered the largest in Africa, and shewing him every curiosity which it afforded, had cruelly and brutally murdered him, together with his attendants. This intelligence is furnished us by a gentleman recently from the Rio Pongus, who received the information from traders from the interior country, and on whom reliance might be placed.

[*Charleston Courier.*]

AUGUSTA, (*Maine*) *July* 11.

Horrid murder! At an early hour on Wednesday morning last, the inhabitants of this town were alarmed with the dreadful information, that Captain James Purinton, of this place, in cool blood, had murdered his wife, six children, and himself.—His oldest son, with a slight wound, escaped, and his second daughter was found desperately wounded, and probably supposed dead by the father.—Between the hours of two and three a near neighbor, Mr Dean Wyman, was awakened by the lad who had escaped, with an incoherent account of the horrid scene from which he had just fled; he, with a Mr. Ballard, another neighbor instantly repaired to the fatal spot, and here, after having lighted a candle, a scene was presented which beggars all description.—In the outer room lay prostrate on his face, and weltering in his gore, the perpetrator of the dreadful deed—his throat cut in the most shocking manner, and the bloody razor lying on the table by his side—in an adjoining bed-room lay Mrs. Purinton in her bed, her head almost severed from her body; and near her on the floor, a little daughter about ten years old, who probably hearing the cries of her mother, ran to her relief from the apartment in which she slept, and was murdered by her side—in another apartment was found the two oldest and the youngest daughters, the first aged nineteen, dreadfully butchered; the second desperately wounded, reclining her head on the body of the dead infant 18 months old, and in a state of horror and almost total insensibility—in the room with the father, lay in bed with their throats cut, the two youngest sons, the one 8 the other 6 years old—and in another room was found on the hearth, most dreadfully mangled, the second son, aged 12; he had fell with his trowsers under one arm, with which he had attempted to escape—on the breast work over the fireplace, was the distinct impression of a bloody hand, where the unhappy victim probably supported himself before he fell. The whole house seemed covered with blood, and near the body of the murderer lay the deadly axe. From the surviving daughter we have no account of this transaction; her dangerous situation prevents any communication, and but faint expectations are entertained of her recovery.—From the son, aged 17, we learn the following.—That he was awakened by the piercing cries of his mother, and involuntarily shocking himself, he leaped from his bed and ran towards the door of his apartment; he was met by his father with an axe in his hand (the moon shone bright) who struck him, but being so near each other, the axe passed over his shoulder and one corner of it entered his back, making a slight wound; his father then struck at him once or twice and missed him; at this moment his younger brother, who slept in the same bed with him, jumped from it and attempted to get out at the door: to prevent this the father attacked him, which gave the eldest an opportunity to escape. During this dreadful conflict, not a word was uttered From the appearance of the wounds generally, it seems to have been the design of Purinton to dissever the heads from the bodies, excepting the two youngest, whose throats it is supposed were cut with a razor —The oldest daughter and second son had several wounds, the probable consequence of their resistance. We have no evidence to lead us satisfactorily to the motives for this barbarous and unnatural deed. Capt. Purinton was 46 years of age, and had lately removed from Bowdoinham to this town—an independent farmer, with a handsome estate, of steady, correct and industrious habits, and of a good character and fair reputation, and strongly attached to his family. He had been heard lately to say, that he felt much distressed at the unpromising appearance of his farm; that he should be destitute of bread for his family, and hay for his cattle, and dreaded the consequences. The Sunday before his death, it is said, he wrote to his brother and informed him that on the reception of the letter he should be dead, and requesting him to take charge of his family. In the letter was a death's head marked out, and it was sealed with black.—It was found on Monday by his wife, and gave her the greatest alarm and uneasiness. This her husband perceiving, and learning the cause, he attempted to console her by assurances that he had no intention of committing suicide, but that he had a presentiment of his approaching death. Captain Purinton was a warm believer in the doctrine of universal salvation, though it is not said of him, that he was a bigoted maniac or a religious enthusiast—His whole conduct the day preceding and during the last bloody scene of his life, seems marked with the utmost coolness and deliberation Towards the close of that day he ground the fatal axe, and when the family retired to bed, he was left reading the bible. The jury of inquest have brought him in guilty of wilful murder on his wife and six children, and that as a felon he did kill and murder himself. We do not recollect that the annals of Massachusetts can furnish a transaction so distressing.

The ways of providence are dark and mysterious! yet God is just! and man, weak man, must tremble and adore!

After the coroner's inquest had executed its office the select men took charge of the dead. Their remains in eight coffins were conveyed to the Meeting-house.

Mrs. Purinton and her children were placed in the body of the house; captain Purinton in the porch.

Their funeral took place yesterday afternoon, attended by an immense concourse of people.

The public services at the meeting-House were solemn and pertinent—commenced by a funeral anthem—Prayer by Rev. Mr. Stone—Sermon by Rev. Mr. Taylor—a prayer by Reverend Mr. Merritt.

The bodies of Mrs. Purinton and her children were interred in the common burying ground: Capt Purinton in the highway adjoining the same; and the deadly axe and razor buried with him.

They were attended to their graves by a numerous and respectable procession, which was arranged by John Davis, Reuel Williams, and H. W. Fuller, Esquires, appointed and acting as Marshals on the occasion.

The procession moved over the bridge and through the principal streets, to the place of interment in the order following.

Senior Marshal.
The Coroner, and
Inquest.
Rev. Mr. Haskell, Rev. Mr. Stone.
The corpse of Mrs. Purinton,
And her six children, according to their ages, supported by bearers attended by pall holders, followed by
The surviving son.
Other relations.
Selectmen.
Clergy.
Sheriff of the County.
Judges of the courts.
Military officers.
Magistrates.
Citizens.
Marshals.

A cart bearing the body of Capt. Purinton, closed the procession.

The church service was performed at the grave over the bodies of Mrs. Purinton and children by the Rev. Mr. Haskell, in a very solemn and impressive manner. The procession then returned to the Meeting-house, where the solemnities of the day were closed by another and an appropriate prayer by the Rev. Mr. Gillet.

Wreath.

SONG,

FOR THE CELEBRATION OF

AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE, 1806.

BY J. M. SEWALL, Esq.

Of Portsmouth.

HAIL Independence! happy day,
That gave Columbia sov'reign sway!
Let ev'ry heart with rapture spring,
On ev'ry tongue loud pæans ring,
And with united ardor rise,
In grateful incense to the skies!
Though vice and folly rule the helm,
And honor, justice, truth, contemn,
Let Fed'ral pride suppress each fear,
The rising sigh, th' indignant tear!
Chorus—Short, tho' triumphant, *falsehood's* reign,
While TRUTH eternal shall remain;
Heav'n still o'ersees this favor'd land,
And shields us with its guardian hand.

What tho' those blissful days are fled,
When Washington and Adams sway'd,
Whose smiles their grateful country cheer'd,
Whose frown the mightiest nations fear'd,
Who silenc'd party, faction aw'd,
At home belov'd, rever'd abroad.
What tho' a *Chief* presides, the worst
That e'er an injur'd nation curst,
Let Fed'ral pride suppress each fear,
The rising sigh, th' indignant tear!
Chorus—Short, tho' triumphant, &c.

Though to wise policy succeed
Each hateful scheme, disgraceful deed;
Hypocrisy that hides its plan,
With guile and malice, in the van,
Base arts, that shock the gen'rous mind,
While abject terror sneaks behind,
And *French philosophy* and *lies*,
Which e'en the very French despise,
With solemn pomp, bring up the rear,
Yet Fed'ral pride forbids the tear!
Chorus—Short, tho' triumphant, &c.

What tho' no Navy guards our shore,
And Commerce bleeds at ev'ry pore;
A prey to pirates, and in fear
Of ev'ry upstart privateer—
And, spite of *Gun boats*, scuds amain
From Gallia, Tripoli, and Spain.
Pow'rs whom each sea-god may derides,
While laughing Nereids shake their sides.
Yet, Fed'ral pride forbids our fear,
The rising sigh, th' indignant tear!
Chorus—Short, tho' triumphant, &c.

What tho' no bulwarks guard our land,
Our Capitals defenceless stand;
While those who should our shores defend,
Our wealth, for *moon shine* wasteful spend.
With *left hand* prudence, save each mite,
And squander millions with the *right*.
Complaints in vain assail our *Chief*,
He and his myrmidons, are deaf,
Still Fed'ral pride forbids each fear,
The rising sigh, th' indignant tear!
Chorus—Short, tho' triumphant, &c.

But when a host of Satellites,
Echoes of echoes! in their flights,
Their fawning adulations vent,
And *laud* the present government,
Which infamy shall oft recall,
'Till dark oblivion shrouds them all,
Philosophy forsakes the breast,
Beneath the pond'rous load opprest!
Contempt and indignation frown,
And tears of scalding rage pour down!
Chorus—Yet joys to think their downfall sure,
While Fed'ral virtue shall endure,
For heav'n o'ersees this favor'd land,
And shields us with its guardian hand!

Sons of Columbia! still oppose,
And hold no commerce with her foes!
Detest the sycophantic tribe.
And scorn the hand that holds a bribe.
Remember Washington, your sire,
Whose god-like deeds, the vet'ran fire;
And dauntless Adams, stern, yet mild,
Unrivall'd both, yet both revil'd;
Soon may such patriots rise elate,
And Gilmans once more guide the State.
Chorus—Short, tho' triumphant, *falsehood's* reign,
While Truth eternal will remain.
Heav'n shall dispel Columbia's woes,
And doom to infamy her foes!

A PRODIGY INDEED.

To Cato once a frighted Roman flew;
The night before a rat had gnaw'd his shoe,
Terrible omen, by the gods decreed!
Cheer up, my friend, said Cato, mind not that
Though if, instead, your shoe had gnaw'd the rat,
It would have been a prodigy indeed.

BONAPARTE AT PLAY.

"What *tricks* this Bonaparte plays!
His *cut* false honor brings;
He *deals* in Queens in various ways,
And makes *his Knaves* all *Kings*."

EPIGRAM,

On Tom Paine's asserting that "the term *good behaviour* had neither a legal nor a moral definition."

Tom Paine want's explain'd what is call'd good behaviour,
He may well be suppos'd not to know,
Who denies the existence *above* of a Saviour,
And abuses all kingdoms *below*.

[*Virginia Gazette.*]

Diversity.

From the Emerald.

Desultory Selections and Original Remarks.

PEDANTS.

"I HATE" says Montaigne, "those scholars who can do nothing without their books." In fact, men of this description have no knowledge, but can tell you where some may be found. They serve as *indexes* to good authors. Their conversation will inform you, that in such a passage and chapter of Cicero and Seneca there is a fine thought. Montaigne has observed, with much truth in the sentiment, and with great beauty of expression, that science is a sceptre in the hands of some men, and a bauble in those of others.

OPULENCE.

A RICH officer of revenue, one day asked a man of wit, what kind of a thing opulence was? "It is a thing," replied the philosopher, "which can give a rogue an advantage over an honest man."

AN epigrammatist has the following pointed sneer at what may be called *sentimental charity:*

Such fine-spun pain does want excite,
When beggars near Penuria stray;
From fear of fainting at the sight,
She turns her head another way.
Her generous notions *partial* call
The hand that grants a penny;
So, as she cannot give to *all*,
She never gives to *any*.

The following extracts are taken from a popular translation of a work, entitled "The French Anas."

MY friend M. Benserade had a witty and very singular method of expressing himself on every occasion. We were one day conversing on poetry, and he, commending his favorite bard Adam Menusier, observed, that "No person since his time appeared capable of imitating him." "Sir," says Benserade, "the fellow climbed Mount Parnassus with a ladder, and when he had ascended, he drew it up after him."

BOLAEANA.

BOILEAU, in his satire addressed to Moliere, wrote the following lines on the shackles of rhyme:

Curs'd be the man who first, with addled brain,
By metre dar'd the pow'rs of wit restrain;
In verse imprison ev'ry thought sublime,
And, slave-like, hug the clanking chains of rhyme.

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